Report to the Twenty-Second Legislature Regular Session of 2003

on

SECURING SPACE FOR THE COMMERCIAL HAUL OUT OF BOATS ON THE ISLANDS OF MAUI AND KAUAI FOR SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS



Prepared by the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation State of Hawaii

in response to

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 158 and House Concurrent Resolution No. 163 Regular Session of 2002

December 2002

REPORT TO THE TWENTY-SECOND STATE LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION 2003

ON

SECURING SPACE FOR THE COMMERCIAL HAUL OUT OF BOATS ON THE ISLANDS OF MAUA AND KAUAI FOR SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS

This report is submitted in response to Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) No. 158 and House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) No. 163, Regular Session of 2002, REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO FACILITATE SECURING SPACE FOR THE COMMERCIAL HAUL OUT OF BOATS FOR SAFETY, COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

I. <u>BACKGROUND</u>

Commercial vessel operators from Maui and Kauai provided testimony in strong support of the purpose and intent of HCR No. 163 at the hearings conducted by House and Senate Committees during the Regular Legislative Session of 2002. The Department also concurred with the purpose and intent of HCR No. 163, a copy of which is attached for ready reference.

II. STATUS REPORT

A. Kauai.

The Department issued a short-term permit for the use of a parcel within Nawiliwili Boat Harbor for the purpose of performing the haul out and repair of commercial vessels. A temporary structure wholly enclosed in heavy plastic fabric was erected on the parcel. The vessel and all repair activities were contained within the structure. All dust from sanding operations, and fumes from painting and solvents were prevented from escaping into the surrounding atmosphere, and all repair residue was apparently disposed of in accordance with *National Management Measures Guidance to Control Nonpoint Source Pollution from Marinas and Recreational Boating*, EPA 841-B-01-005.

The successful haul out and repairs to two commercial vessels will have been completed at this facility by the end of calendar year 2002. The Department is presently evaluating the most appropriate method of disposing of a long-term lease of this parcel for continued use as a haul out and repair facility. Additional discussions are planned with commercial operators to ensure their needs for this facility are addressed in the lease or permit documents.

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B. Maui.

At its meeting on July 28, 2002, the Board of Land and Natural Resources approved the consolidation of State lands at the Mala Wharf area of Maui for set aside to the Department's Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR) for boating related purposes. The area includes the existing boat ramp facility, the boat storage facility (presently operated under a revocable permit), the Mala Wharf approach road, and adjacent submerged lands and water areas, including the offshore mooring area. The drawing showing the area to be set aside is attached for reference.

DOBOR intends to issue a long-term lease for the boat storage area, and include a requirement to provide vessel haul out and repair services, as well as other expanded uses of the premises. The Governor's Executive Order setting this area aside to DOBOR is being processed, and must be issued before a lease is executed. In the interim, DOBOR is discussing various options with several interested parties for developing appropriate facilities needed to service the needs of local boaters.

The Department expects to issue a long-term lease for the vessel haul out, repair, and storage area prior to January 1, 2004.

Attachments

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO FACILITATE SECURING SPACE FOR THE COMMERCIAL HAUL OUT OF BOATS FOR SAFETY, COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

WHEREAS, the United States Coast Guard requires all commercial boaters to have their boats hauled out at least once every 18 months for the purpose of making inspections for the safety and seaworthiness of vessels; and

WHEREAS, this is an ongoing activity that occurs on all islands however, only Oahu and the Big Island have facilities for these kinds of haul-outs; and

WHEREAS, commercial boaters on the islands of Kauai and Maui find that they must actually sail their boats to the Big Island or Honolulu in order to perform these inspections; and

WHEREAS, this activity puts the crews of these vessels in a position that compromises safety, since many of the vessels were built to operate in semi-protected waters, but now find that they must cross some of the most treacherous waters in the world at predetermined times, often putting the vessels and their crew in harms way; and

WHEREAS, these inspections are set up in advance and inclement weather may develop subsequently but the inspection times are not very flexible once established and are costly to the industry to reschedule; and

WHEREAS, there have been instances of boats and lives that have been lost at sea including the tragic lost of life on the research vessel Holo Holo several years ago where crew members were lost in the Alenuihaha Channel; and

WHEREAS, it is very costly for commercial boaters to send their vessels to other islands because they lose the income from

do hereby certify that the within document is a full, true and correct copy of the original on file in this office.

Chief Clerk

House of Representatives

State of Hawaii

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their normal charters as well as incur expenditures for their crews in travel costs; and

WHEREAS, the development of a business to handle this activity is a possibility to consider which would add economic value to the islands of Maui and Kauai; and

WHEREAS, the State derives a percentage of income from the gross revenues of these vessels and when they are not producing income it is in effect a loss of income for the State; and

WHEREAS, it would be mutually beneficial for the State and the commercial boaters to have a location on each island for this kind of activity; and

WHEREAS, the safety and cost issues could be resolved if there were haul-out facilities on the islands of Maui and Kauai; and

WHEREAS, the commercial boating industry requires only the land for this activity and there is no investment of equipment or other expenses on behalf of the State; and

WHEREAS, it may not be desirable for the State to get into the dry dock business when merely securing the land for this activity to take place would be sufficient; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-First Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2002, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is requested to work with the commercial industry in order to determine a location on the islands of Maui and Kauai where such haul-out activity would be feasible; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and Natural Resources shall report to the Chair of the Water, Land, Energy and Environment Committee of the State Senate and the Chair of the House Water and Land Use Committee of the House of Representatives on its progress with this project, as well as any problems that seem to be stifling the completion of this project, and which may need some legislative solution, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2003; and

H.C.R. NO. (63

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Chair of the House Committee on Water and Land Use, the Chair of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, Energy and Environment, Board of Land and Natural Resources, and the Ocean Tourism Coalition.

OFFFDED BY.

